

## Tips for Crafting Endings

1. Surprise the reader with an unusual fact or idea.
2. Use some of the techniques that make a lead work:
  - an anecdote;
  - a quote;
  - a brief but memorable scene; and
  - a question that raises images and ideas that linger with the reader.
3. Send the reader back to an important point you made earlier or to the title or theme.
4. Invite readers to think about ideas that go beyond the text.
5. Raise thought-provoking questions.
6. Use humor to make the reader reflect through laughter.
7. Develop a connection between the text and the reader.
8. Keep the ending ambiguous and let the reader decide what happens.
9. Predict the future in your ending.
10. End with a quote that is the essence of your theme or point.